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United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 46/153 of 18 December 1991 on the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI), the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to ensure that sufficient resources were provided to the Institute within the overall appropriations of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 to enable the Institute to carry out, in full and on time, all its mandates (para. 2); and called upon Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide financial and other support to the Institute in the fulfilment of its objectives, particularly those concerning training, technical assistance, policy guidance, research and data collection (para. 1).

2. Paragraph 35 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991, a statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, states:

> "The activities of the United Nations institutes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders should be supported by Member States and the United Nations, with particular attention being given to the needs of such institutes located in developing countries. Given the important role of such institutes, their contributions to policy development and implementation, and their resource requirements, especially those of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, should be fully integrated into the overall programme."

3. The present report has been prepared in response to paragraph 3 of resolution 46/153, and is based on information provided by the Institute, particularly that which concerns its resource appropriations and programme expenditures for the period from July 1990 to June 1992. Complementary information on the Institute's programme activities and funding situation may be found in the progress report of the Secretary-General on the "Activities of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and the regional institutes for crime prevention and criminal justice" (E/CN.15/1992/3), presented to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its first session, held at Vienna from 21 to 30 April 1992.

4. Annexes I to VII present financial statements indicating the Institute's resources.

II. STATUS OF OPERATIONS

5. The following is an indication of the present status of the Institute's operations.

A. Host facilities

6. The Government of Uganda provided $173,152.14 for the renovation of the UNAFRI building during the period 1991-1992. It is anticipated that a further allocation of $161,233 will be made by the Government for the period 1992-1993 for outstanding renovation work. Given the magnitude and complexity of the work involved in relation to the funds available, the work has to be accomplished in phases.

B. Staffing

7. The current staffing of the Institute amounts to 16 posts. There are 4 Professional-level posts and 12 General Service-level posts (see annex I). By virtue of a decision taken at the third meeting of the Institute's Governing Board, the post of Director has been vacated and is being advertised as at August 1992. Additionally, three Professional posts (under funding from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)) are presently vacant and are being advertised. These are the posts of Research Officer, Information/Documentation Officer and Finance Officer.

C. Programme activities

8. The work programme of the Institute for the period 1992-1993 consists of the following subprogramme activities: (a) management and administration; (b) training and human resource development; (c) research and policy development; (d) information and documentation; (e) advisory services to Governments; and (f) joint activities.

1. Management and administration

9. The Institute initiated a management and administration subprogramme, the objectives of which are efficiently to manage and administer the staff, funds and other resources; to ensure the effective and timely implementation of the proposed work plans; to mobilize support and funds for the work of the Institute; and to evaluate the progress achieved.

2. Training and human resource development

10. The training and human resource development programme of the Institute is geared towards upgrading the skills, knowledge and expertise of crime prevention and criminal justice professionals of the African region, with priority accorded to the training of trainers. Training material and programmes, designed for different categories of personnel, are being developed. The Institute hopes to establish a mechanism for collaboration, exchange of information and joint action among key personnel and experts on problems of major concern to countries of the region.

11. During the period 1991-1992, the Institute conducted a series of training seminars for professionals from various justice-related sectors across Africa. These seminars included the Training Seminar on the Prevention and Correction of Juvenile Delinquency in the Context of Development (Kampala, September 1991); the Training and Coordination Workshop for the Survey of Crime, Victimization and Justice Administration in Africa (Kampala, December 1991); the Training Seminar on Combating Corruption, Economic/Organized Crime in Africa (Kampala, January 1992); the Training Seminar on Planning for the Prevention of Crime and Administration of Justice in the Context of National Development Planning for French-speaking African countries (Bujumbura, 25-29 May 1992); and the Seminar on Victims of Crime and the Prevention of Victimization in Africa (Kampala, 29 June-3 July 1992). A total of six consultants were engaged for the training activities undertaken.

3. Research and policy development

12. UNAFRI's research and policy development activities aim at providing a sound empirical basis for the formulation of responsive and effective policies and programmes to minimize delinquency and crime, particularly economic and organized crime, in the region. The Institute is making an assessment of the requirements of African Governments and developing a framework for the collection of reliable data, inter alia, by developing survey-type research tools and conducting policy-oriented studies.

13. Regionally based research activities that were to be initiated during the period January to March 1992 included studies on crime, victimization and criminal justice; the harmful impact of new forms and dimensions of criminality; penal law, procedures and appropriate reforms; and the interrelationship between development and criminality as a basis for policy formulation. These projects have not yet been initiated owing to the lack of resources.

4. Information and documentation

14. UNAFRI continued its efforts to establish a comprehensive specialized reference library and to develop a mechanism for sharing and transferring knowledge in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice in Africa. UNAFRI is in the process of establishing an African information network and has regularly published newsletters and reports on the seminars and workshops held and the research undertaken.

15. Despite the paucity of facilities and staff, the Institute has established a "mini-library" of books, papers and other documentation. The Australian Institute of Criminology provided a research assistant for a two-week period, donated a personal computer and provided training in its use.

5. Advisory services

16. The Institute made plans for the provision of advisory services to assist in the development and adoption of effective measures to combat criminality and improve the observance of human rights in the administration of justice, in line with United Nations norms, guidelines and international instruments. It also developed a strategy to promote subregional and regional collaboration in this field.

6. Joint activities

17. Collaborative activities with the United Nations and cooperating institutes and with the Secretariat are planned as part of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network. Emphasis is also placed on enhancing the capacity of the region to combat transnational crime through legal agreements (e.g. for mutual assistance) and practical arrangements to facilitate joint action by States in problem areas of mutual concern.

18. The Institute participated in the following meetings during the period under review: the Preparatory Scientific Committee for the Second International Conference on Urban Safety, Drugs and Crime Prevention (Paris, May 1991); the Expert Planning Meeting on the Fourth United Nations Crime Survey (Rome, June 1991); the Intergovernmental Working Group Meeting on the Creation of an Effective Crime and Justice Programme (Vienna, August 1991); the Fourth African Seminar for Heads of Penitentiary Administrations (Mauritius, November 1991); and the Seventh Annual Joint Programme Coordination Meeting of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network (Riyadh, January 1992).

III. FUNDING AND SUPPORT

A. Funding sources

1. Assessed financial contributions of African Member States

19. In accordance with the statute of the Institute, its administrative and programme costs are to be defrayed by financial contributions from African Member States, under a specific scale of assessment (based on the Organization of African Unity scale). The total amount of the remitted assessed financial contributions of African Member States was $66,879.81, against the total amount due of $766,766 for the periods 1989-1990 and 1991-1992 (see annexes IV and V).

2. United Nations Development Programme

20. Since the establishment of the Institute, UNDP has been the major source of funding of operational activities. UNDP funding for the Institute, as stipulated in the project document, is to continue through December 1993.

3. Economic Commission for Africa

21. ECA, as the executing agency of the project, covered the salaries of the Director and Deputy Director of the Institute until December 1991. In 1992-1993 they will be defrayed from the United Nations regular budget as part of a grant of $180,000.

4. United Nations regular budget

22. In order to secure a temporary solution to the need for a more stable financial base for the Institute, the Secretary-General took action in pursuance of paragraph 2 of resolution 46/153, as reflected in the statement of programme budget implications (A/C.5/46/77).

23. Taking the 1991 budget of the Institute as a base, the amount of $180,000 from the United Nations regular budget, representing half of the contributions of African Member States, was provided by the General Assembly as a grant under section 23 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. It was determined that such a grant would assist in covering the administrative costs of the Institute.

5. United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network

24. Support and assistance, especially in terms of programme collaboration, were received from the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and the affiliated and associated institutes and centres. Substantive guidance was provided to the Institute by the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch, Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, United Nations Office at Vienna.

25. The Helsinki Institute for Crime Prevention and Control (HEUNI) and the Arab Security Studies and Training Centre at Riyadh sponsored the participation of the Director in the Seventh Annual Joint Coordination Meeting of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network, in Saudi Arabia in January 1992, and the Australian Institute of Criminology provided the assistance mentioned under paragraph 15 above.

B. Fund-raising activities

26. Despite vigorous efforts to mobilize support from Member States, especially those represented on the Governing Board, and to secure payment of the assessed contributions, the status of payment of contributions has continued to be unsatisfactory.

27. A number of projects were formulated by the Institute for which donors were sought, but with relatively little success. However, recent fund-raising initiatives that have some likelihood of success include technical assistance by the Home Office, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, for a survey of the African crime situation; UNAFRI training seminars in connection with the envisaged United Nations resource guide for practitioners dealing with domestic violence (International Centre for Law Reform, Vancouver, Canada); a project on strengthening the family to prevent crime in the context of the International Year of the Family (Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs); and technical assistance for Arab-speaking African States, to be sponsored by the Arab Security Studies and Training Centre.

IV. GOVERNING BOARD

28. The third ordinary meeting of the Governing Board of the Institute was held at Kampala on 4 and 5 May 1992. The Board considered the Institute's financial status and fund-raising activities and discussed matters relating to the Institute's present and projected work programme, its management, administration, operations, the status of host facilities and staffing.

29. The Board expressed satisfaction at the number of signatories to the Institute statutes, that is, 26, but at the same time urged Member States to fulfil their obligations by providing their contributions to the Institute. It was pointed out that it was the responsibility of the Board to assist in the mobilization of funds for the Institute to make it viable.

30. The Government of Uganda's continued support for the Institute was reiterated. It was noted that the United Nations grant of $180,000 did not absolve Member States from meeting their financial obligations to the Institute.

31. Concern was expressed at the non-responsiveness of Member States to payment of assessed financial contributions to the Institute, noting that "members of the Governing Board should ensure, first and foremost, that they themselves meet their financial obligations to the Institute". At the same time, "the Institute should step up efforts to mobilize Member States' contributions and more signatures to the statute of the Institute" and should "contact diversified sources of funding to strenghten its resource base" (report of the executing agency (ECA) (UNAFRI/GB3/92/3b)).

V. CONCLUSIONS

32. There have been acknowledged difficulties during the Institute's initial stages of operation, and its financial uncertainty has been a major obstacle to its viability. The Institute's financial base continues to be precarious and a long-term solution has yet to be found. A number of factors have seriously affected its financial status and administration, including the difficulty of obtaining and securing remittances of owed financial contributions from African Member States; and problems with the UNAFRI salary scale resulting in difficulties in attracting qualified personnel and delays in staff recruitment.

33. Ways have to be found to involve and integrate UNAFRI fully in the operations and work of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme and of its programme network. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and its secretariat, the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch, Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, have major roles to discharge in this regard, especially in accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/152 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/22. At its first session, the Commission identified global coordination (including that involving the network of institutes) as a major objective and a priority of the programme.

34. The secretariat of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice has a special role in mobilizing, advising, guiding, backstopping, overseeing, monitoring, integrating and coordinating the work and activities of all the cooperating institutes, including UNAFRI. However, under its own existing resource constraints, which are themselves subject to review pursuant to resolution 46/152, the secretariat has been limited in this respect.

35. Certain activities need to be developed or strengthened, with an appropriate infrastructure to meet the requirements of African States and other developing countries. These include clearing-house functions to permit the development, application and evaluation of crime prevention and criminal justice programmes, measures and strategies and identification of viable policy options for States in the regions each institute serves. Various types of exchanges among the institutes and between the secretariat and the institutes, including, in particular, secondment of staff, might assist to build such capacity.

36. The Member States of the African region should play a special part in strengthening the Institute's resource base by helping to mobilize the necessary support for the Institute, while the Commission's membership could help to enlist substantive support for the Institute and the entire United Nations programme.

37. It is hoped that UNDP and other United Nations funding agencies will respond, as called for by the Ministerial Meeting, the General Assembly in its resolution 46/152 and the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1992/22 adopted on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

38. It is also hoped that Member States of the region and donor countries will, in pursuance of the recommendations contained in resolution 46/153, help to provide the much needed financing to permit the Institute to fulfil its important role for the direct benefit of the region and indirectly of the international community as a whole.

ANNEX I

Current staffing table as at 1992

	Status	Number of posts
1. Professional posts		
Managerial		
Director (P-5)	Vacant	1 (United Nations-funded 1992/1993)
Deputy Director (P-3)	Acting as Officer-in-Charge	1 (United Nations-funded 1992/1993)
Administrative		
Training Officer (P-4)		1
Acting Finance Officer (P-2)	On temporary secondment from ECA	1 (ECA-funded)
Research Officer (P-4)	Vacant	1 (UNDP-funded)
Information/Documentation Officer (P-3)	Vacant	1 (UNDP-funded)
Finance Officer (P-2)	Vacant	1 (UNDP-funded)
2. General service		
Secretary		3
Assistant Librarian		1
Administrative Assistant		1
Financial Assistant		1
Messenger		3
Driver		2
Gardener/maintenance		1

Source: Report of the third ordinary meeting of the Governing Board of UNAFRI, Kampala, 4 and 5 May 1992, para. 24; report of the Director (agenda item 3 (a), UNAFRI/GB3/92/3 (a)), p. 5; programme of work and budget for 1992/1993 (agenda item 4 (b), UNAFRI/GB3/92/4 (b)).

ANNEX II

Statement of resources and expenditures for the period from July 1990 to December 1991

(United States dollars)

		Amount
RESOURCES		
Assessed contributions (expected only)		512 616.00 a/
Grant from the Government of Uganda		20 000.00
Grant from ECA (overhead costs)		109 590.23
Grant from ECA		50 137.00
UNDP (Project Fund)		375 117.13
Interest		21 519.74
Total income		1 088 980.10
EXPENDITURES		
Expenditures against assessed contributions		
Maintenance and operations, equipment	10 427.10	
Official travel	4 402.00	
Salaries and allowances	3 057.26	
Miscellaneous	7 259.27	
Total	25 145.63	
Expenditures against ECA grants		
Overhead, salaries and allowances	109 590.23	
Other salaries and allowances	50 137.00	
Total	159 727.23 b/	
Expenditures against UNDP project		
Salaries and allowances	98 775.53	
Administrative support personnel	46 212.82	
Consultancy	13 100.72	
Travel and mission costs	42 740.32	
Group training and fellowships	137 680.64	
Expendable	10 039.17	
Non-expendable equipment	67 006.97	
Miscellaneous expenses	27 774.74	
Total	443 330.91	
Total expenditures		628 203.77
Excess of resources over expenditures		460 776.33

a/ Of this expected amount, only $66,879.81 was received during the period.

b/ Based on the calculations of ECA.

ANNEX III

Statement of resources and expenditures for the period from 1 January to 30 June 1992

(United States dollars)

		Amount
RESOURCES		
Assessed contributions (for 1992)		254 150.00
United Nations grant		46 000.00
UNDP (Project Fund)		187 560.00
Interest		6 610.00
Total		494 320.00
EXPENDITURES		
Expenditures against assessed contributions		
Administrative support	17 462.94	
Official travel	2 233.31	
Meetings	2 807.37	
Expenditures	189.67	
Secretarial services	1 140.61	
Communications	360.19	
Maintenance and operations	2 662.44	
Transport	571.98	
Hospitality	1 524.96	
Miscellaneous	1 551.93	
Total	30 461.40	
Expenditures against United Nations grant		
Salaries and allowances	46 000.00	
Total	46 000.00	
Expenditures against UNDP (Project Fund)		
Salaries and allowances	49 387.75	
Administrative support	14 411.70	
Travel and mission costs	3 895.91	
Group training	125 687.83	
Expendables	6 503.49	
Reporting costs	3 857.97	
Sundry	9 292.53	
Total	213 037.18	
Total expenditures	289 498.58	
Excess of resources over expenditures	204 821.42	

ANNEX IV

Assessments, contributions and outstanding balances for the period 1989-1990

Country	United Nations scale of assessment	UNAFRI scale of assessment	1989/1990 assessment	Contribution received 1989/1990	Outstanding balance 1989/1990
Botswana	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Burundi	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Congo	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Egypt	0.07	11.48	28 400	-	28 400.00
Equatorial Guinea	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Gambia	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Ghana	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Guinea	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	0.26	19.78	48 000	-	48 000.00
Malawi	0.01	1.66	3 333	4 675.00	(1 342.00)
Morocco	0.05	8.20	21 000	-	21 000.00
Mozambique	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Niger	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Nigeria	0.19	19.14	35 900	28 708.99	7 191.01
Rwanda	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Senegal	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Seychelles	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Sierra Leone	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Somalia	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Sudan	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Togo	0.01	1.66	3 333	-	3 333.00
Tunisia	0.03	4.92	13 500	13 464.46	35.54
Uganda	0.01	1.66	5 000	5 000.00	-
United Republic of Tanzania	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Zaire	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Zambia	0.01	1.66	5 000	-	5 000.00
Zimbabwe	0.02	3.28	10 000	-	10 000.00
Total	0.85	100.00	248 466	51 848.45	206 617.55

ANNEX V

Assessments, contributions and outstanding balances for the period 1991-1992

Country	1991/1992 assessment	Contributions received 1991/1992	Outstanding balance 1991/1992	Total assessment 1989/1992	Total contri-butions	Total outstanding balance
Botswana	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Burundi	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Congo	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Egypt	57 400	-	57 400.00	85 800	-	85 800.00
Equatorial Guinea	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Gambia	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Ghana	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Guinea	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	98 900	-	98 900.00	146 900	-	146 900.00
Malawi	8 300	-	8 300.00	11 633	4 675.00	6 958.00
Morocco	41 000	-	41 000.00	62 000	-	62 000.00
Mozambique	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Niger	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Nigeria	95 700	-	95 700.00	131 600	28 708.99	102 891.01
Rwanda	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Senegal	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Seychelles	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Sierra Leone	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Somalia	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Sudan	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Togo	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Tunisia	24 600	6 731.36	17 868.64	38 100	20 195.82	17 904.18
Uganda	8 300	8 300.00	-	13 300	13 300.00	-
United Republic of Tanzania	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Zaire	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Zambia	8 300	-	8 300.00	13 300	-	13 300.00
Zimbabwe	16 400	-	16 400.00	26 400	-	26 400.00
Total	508 300	15 031.36	493 268.64	766 766	66 879.81	699 886.19

ANNEX VI

Proposed programme budget for 1992

(United States dollars)

Description	UNDP	Member States	United Nations grant	Total budget
Director			90 000	90 000
Deputy Director				
Research Officer	43 296			43 296
Training Officer	43 296			43 296
Information/ Documentation Officer	39 372			39 372
Finance/Administrative Officer	35 956			35 956
Consultants	80 000			80 000
Administrative support	32 500	48 000		80 500
Systems analyst/ United Nations Office at Vienna	24 000			24 000
Official travel	40 000	15 000		55 000
Mission cost	10 000			10 000
Group training/meetings	268 037			268 037
Research		67 583		67 583
Information/ documentation		20 000		20 000
Expendables	20 000	5 000		25 000
Non-expendable equipment	50 000	30 000		80 000
Reporting cost	30 000			30 000
Miscellaneous	25 000	13 417		38 417
Contingency communication		15 000		15 000
Operation and maintenance		20 000		20 000
Transport		10 000		10 000
Hospitality		6 000		6 000
Total	746 457 a/	250 000 b/	90 000 c/	1 081 457

(Source and footnotes on following page)

(Source and footnotes to annex VI)

Source: Adapted from the programme of work and budget for 1992-1993 (UNAFRI/GB3/92/4b), p. 8.

a/ Within the total UNDP Fund allocation for 1992.

b/ Subject to receipt of remittances of assessed contributions from Member States.

c/ Representing half of the grant approved by the General Assembly for one post at the P-5 level and one post at the P-3 level in 1992-1993.